

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, ETRD

SUBJECT:REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS ON THE FLORENCE AGREE-
MENT --

REF: (A) 77 BRUSSELS USEEC 19138; (B) 77 STATE 294131;
(C) 77 BRUSSELS 15303

1. WE APPRECIATE PROMPT COMMISSION RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST
FOR FURTHER BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON THE FLORENCE AGREE-
MENT. UNFORTUNATELY AS THE COMMISSION KNOWS WE WERE UNABLE
TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED DATES. ALSO, WE PREFER WASHINGTON
AS THE VENUE FOR THIS ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS. MISSION
SHOULD PROPOSE TO THE COMMISSION THAT CONSULTATIONS TAKE
PLACE IN WASHINGTON AT COMMISSION'S EARLIEST CONVENIENCE
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AFTER MARCH 1 (WE UNDERSTAND COMMUNITY UNABLE TO ACCEPT ANY
TIME PRIOR TO THAT DATE).

2. MISSION SHOULD ALSO INFORM THE COMMISSION THAT IN
THESE CONSULTATIONS WE EXPECT TO ENGAGE IN FURTHER DETAILED
TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS TO CLARIFY CERTAIN QUESTIONS WE STILL

HAVE REGARDING PRESENT METHODS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ANNEX D BY THE COMMISSION AND BY THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBER STATES UNDER THE COMMUNITY SYSTEM. ACCORDINGLY, THE EC DELEGATION SHOULD BE FAMILIAR WITH PROCEDURES EMPLOYED IN EACH OF THE

NINE. IN ADDITION WE HOPE TO WORK TOWARD IDENTIFYING PROCEDURAL STANDARDS WHICH CAN BE AGREED UPON AND WHICH WILL HELP TO NARROW THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE METHODS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ANNEX D USED BY OURSELVES AND BY THE COMMUNITY. WE WOULD BE ALSO INTERESTED IN HEARING A REPORT ON THE EC'S PROGRESS TOWARD ESTABLISHING HARMONIZED ANNEX D REGULATIONS REPORTEDLY UNDERWAY SINCE EARLY 1977 IN THE COMMISSION'S COMMITTEE ON DUTY-FREE ARRANGEMENTS. WE WILL, OF COURSE, BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS ALL ASPECTS OF U.S. SYSTEM FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF ANNEX D.

3. WE CONTINUE TO ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO RESOLVING OUR DIFFICULTIES WITH THE COMMUNITY OVER ANNEX D. THIS BECOMES INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT AS CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF THE NEW PROTOCOL APPROACHES AND US MANUFACTURERS OF SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT FOCUS ON THE QUESTION OF ANNEX D IMPLEMENTATION.

4. INDIVIDUAL EC MEMBER STATES WERE UNABLE TO PROVIDE THE USG WITH DATA ON ANNEX D DUTY-FREE IMPORTS IN RESPONSE TO OUR QUESTIONNAIRE WHICH WAS CIRCULATED TO CAPITALS IN JANUARY, 1977. POSSIBLY EC DELEGATION COULD BRING COPY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF ARTICLE 9, TITLE IV REPORTS BY THE MEMBER STATES DURING THE FIRST AND THIRD QUARTERS OF 1977 UNDER COMMISSION REGULATION 3195/75. COMPARABLE DATA ON US DUTY-FREE IMPORTS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE EC DURING THE CONSULTATIONS. VANCE

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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